



BOARD FOR GEOLOGISTS AND GEOPHYSICISTS

2535 CAPITOL OAKS DRIVE, SUITE 300A, SACRAMENTO, CA 95833-2926

TELEPHONE: (916) 263-2113

FAX: (916) 263-2099

E-mail: geology@dca.ca.gov

Website: www.dca.ca.gov/geology



**MINUTES OF THE
EXAMINATION COMMITTEE MEETING
November 2, 2001**

**2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 300A
Sacramento, CA 95833**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair John Williams, Ph.D., called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

2. ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM

John Williams, Ph.D., Chair
Laura Cathcart (arrived (9:40 AM)
Victor Cherven, Ph.D.
Scott Hector
Seena Hoose
Ernest Weber

Absent:
Karen Melikian
Rebecca Sterbentz

Also in attendance:
Paul Sweeney, Executive Officer
Mary Lynn Ferreira, Associate Governmental Program Analyst

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment on non-agenda items.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AUGUST 10,
2001**

Mr. Weber moved to approve the minutes of the open session of the

*The Mission of the Board for Geologists and Geophysicists is to Continuously Enhance the
Quality, Significance, and Availability of Geological and Geophysical Services Offered to the People of California*

August 10, 2001, meeting.

Ms. Hoose seconded.

The motion passed by majority. (Aye – Hector, Hoose, Weber, Williams. Abstain – Cherven)

Mr. Weber moved to approve the minutes of the closed session of the August 10, 2001, meeting.

Ms. Hoose seconded.

The motion passed by majority. (Aye – Hector, Hoose, Weber, Williams. Abstain – Cherven)

5. REPORT ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2001, BOARD MEETING

The Committee received copies of the draft minutes of the September 28, 2001, Board meeting. Dr. Williams directed attention to the following items:

- The Board requested the Technical Advisory Committee to continue discussion on electronic signatures on reports.
- The Board voted to administer its examinations once a year in the spring on a temporary basis due to lack of funds. Mr. Sweeney reported that he submitted to the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) a legislative proposal to increase license fees. If DCA declines to sponsor the legislation in its omnibus bill, Senator Richard Polanco will author the bill.
- The Board scheduled a meeting for March 25, 2002. Because of vacancies on the Board, that was the only date that a quorum could be predicted at this time.
- Dr. Williams stated he will be unable to attend the Board's December 2001 meeting. Mr. Weber agreed to attend for him.
- The Committee requested Mr. Sweeney to place on the next Board meeting agenda the appointment of two Committee members to replace Mr. Weber and Dr. Williams whose terms expire on June 30, 2002.

Dr. Williams asked that the Board also approve the new member's attendance at the last Committee meeting prior to June 30, 2002, as orientation prior to appointment. The Committee selected individuals for recommendation to the Board.

**6. REPORT ON STATUS OF REGISTERED GEOPHYSICIST
OCCUPATIONAL ANALYSIS FOCUS GROUP**

Mr. Sweeney reported that Tracy Ferrel, DCA, Office of Examination Resources (OER), is transferring to the State Personnel Board effective November 16, 2001. Therefore OER will delay the performance of the Registered Geophysicist occupational analysis until spring 2002.

7. REPORT ON FALL 2001 EXAMINATIONS

The Committee received attendance and pass rates before appeals for the fall 2001 examinations.

Mr. Sweeney reported that the results of the Certified Engineering Geologist and Certified Hydrogeologist examinations were sent to examinees approximately forty-five days after the examination. The Board has not received results of the Registered Geologist examinations from the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG). Mr. Sweeney hopes to send those results to examinees before Thanksgiving.

The Committee reviewed statistics compiled from the questionnaire completed by examinees. The Committee requested additional information be compiled that Mr. Sweeney will provide at the next meeting.

**8. REPORT ON NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE BOARDS OF
GEOLOGY'S ANNUAL MEETING**

Dr. Williams reported that Ms. Hoose, Sharon Reid, Mr. Sweeney, Robert Tepel and he attended ASBOG's Annual Meeting in October 2001. Mr. Tepel and Dr. Williams represented the Board on the Council of Examiners.

Dr. Williams reported on the following highlights of the meeting.

- For the first time, ASBOG is using the Statistical Equating Method for grading its examinations. It tracks the history of performance of a question on previous examinations and uses that information as a base for developing statistics. Dr. Williams is not clear on the method and has asked ASBOG for a white paper on the method. ASBOG's psychometricians felt that the method functioned as designed, and the results were in line with patterns from the past.
- Revisions to the bylaws were considered and adopted. Some revisions could not be made because of continuing debate. One such issue is whether or not a person must be a board member to represent a state at ASBOG.

- ASBOG is in the process of contracting for an audit. There is concern that it is taking so long.
- ASBOG's Board is considering for adoption a draft Code of Ethics to facilitate the professional and ethical operation of ASBOG by providing guidance to its members on issues of professional ethics. The draft is out for members' review and suggestions. Dr. Williams will incorporate the changes and bring it back to the 2002 Annual Meeting.
- There is interest in ASBOG becoming more internationally oriented. There already exist a link with Canada, and a link with the European Federation of Geologists is being explored. Also, an international category of membership was approved in the revisions to the bylaws.

The Committee received copies of the ASBOG Professional Geologists Candidate Handbook revised in October 2001.

9. SCHEDULING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN CALENDAR YEAR 2002

The Committee scheduled meetings for February 1, June 7, September 13 and November 29, 2002.

10. REPORT ON STATUS OF AMENDMENTS TO SECTIONS 3005 (EXAMINATION FEES)

Ms. Ferreira reported that the amendments to section 3005 reducing the fees that incorporate the ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology examination became effective on October 10, 2001.

Dr. Williams adjourned the meeting to closed session to consider examination matters as authorized by section 11126(c)(1) of the Government Code.

The open meeting resumed.

13. REPORT ON RESULTS OF CLOSED SESSION

Dr. Williams reported that during closed session, the Committee reviewed the spring 2002 examinations.

Dr. Williams left the meeting at 2:30 and asked Mr. Weber to chair the remainder of the meeting.

14. ESTABLISH AGENDA FOR NEXT EXAMINATION COMMITTEE MEETING AND HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

At the February 2, 2002, meeting, the Committee will perform the final review of the spring 2002 examinations, review the summaries and answer keys for the spring 2002 examinations, review comments from the fall 2001 examination graders, review proposed and revised California-specific questions, review the distribution of questions in each

examination bank and review comments of the fall 2001 criterion-referenced pass point workshop participants.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Weber adjourned the meeting at 3:00 PM.

JOHN WILLIAMS, Ph.D., Chair

PAUL SWEENEY, Executive Officer

Date Approved: February 1, 2002